

Alaska Boating Safety**FY2003 Request: \$800,000**
Reference No: 32553**AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Health and Safety**Category:** Health/Safety**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Jim Stratton**Election District:** Statewide**Contact Phone:** (907)269-8700**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2000 - 06/30/2005**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The goals of the State Boating Safety Program are to reduce preventable non-commercial boating accidents and fatalities, and to enhance safe non-commercial boating in Alaska. From 1988 through 1998, an average of 25-30 Alaskans lost their lives in non-commercial boating accidents. This was more than 10 times the national average and the highest boating fatality rate in the nation. Since the Office of Boating Safety was established in 1998, the fatality rate dropped from 38 that year to 28 in 1999, and to 19 in 2000. This funding allows Alaska to continue to manage its own boating safety program to provide boater education programs and program infrastructure that strive to reduce boating accidents and fatalities.

Funding:

	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000		\$3,000,000
G/F Match	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000		\$1,000,000
Total:	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$0	\$4,000,000

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going Project
100% = Minimum State Match % Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment		<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Total Operating Impact:	0	0
One-Time Startup Costs:	0	
Additional Estimated Annual O&M:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

SLA01/CH61 - \$660,000

SLA00/CH135 - \$660,000

Alaska Boating Safety

FY2003 Request: \$800,000
Reference No: 32553

This is the official boating safety program for Alaska. Through this program, boating fatalities will be decreased and the public will receive information and education on safe boating practices and procedures. As a result of the program, we anticipate an increase in sales for boating safety devices and equipment through Alaskan vendors. We also hope to see a reduction in the cost in search & rescue and body recovery. Program efforts should reduce the economic cost to Alaska families due to boating accidents and fatalities. All boat registration fees are now staying in the state of Alaska instead of being sent to the federal treasury. This project reinvests those registration dollars in excess of that needed by DMV, in additional boating safety programs.

With a boating safety bill passed and Alaska's program recognized by the U.S. Coast Guard, Alaska is now eligible for the maximum funds allowable from motor fuel taxes for boating safety and education programs. The more expenditures we show locally for boating safety, the more the U.S. Coast Guard will provide us with match up to our maximum of \$600.0. DMV has implemented the boat registration program and expects to raise an additional \$200.0 in FY03 in excess of their registration needs. As more boats are registered, we expect the amount of excess funds to increase over time. The \$200.0 of excess receipts anticipated for FY03, when spent by Parks on boating safety projects, will be matched with additional federal receipts up to our maximum of \$600.0.

Project History:

As of 1988, every state and territory except Alaska had established a boating safety program. In July 1998, Governor Knowles established the Office of Boating Safety within the Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation. In recognition of Alaska's efforts to reduce boating fatalities, Alaska secured conditional program approval and a partial funding allocation from the U.S. Coast Guard in Oct. 1998. With the passage of HB108, the Alaska Boating Safety Act, in May, 2000, Alaska became the last state to establish a boating safety program and become eligible to receive the state's full share of federal boating safety and education funding. In FY99 & FY00, Parks was authorized to receive \$660.0 in federal receipts for this program.

State Match Required:

The Federal government matches the state program dollar for dollar up to a maximum of \$600.0. The state match to date has been provided by Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) expenses for the registration program (\$300.0) and those incidental expenditures by Park Rangers, State Troopers, and other state programs for boating safety purposes. Currently, the federal government is matching \$428.0. The amount available for match from the state's incidental expenditures fluctuates from year to year as programs and departments shift priorities and respond to public needs. There is no guaranteed state match amount beyond that currently provided by DMV.

In FY03, DMV expects to collect \$500.0 in boat registrations. Subtracting the \$300.0 for DMV operations leaves \$200.0 of boating registration funds available to the state for other boating purposes. It is these registration dollars that DNR seeks for its boating safety program and which will then be eligible to be matched by the federal government.

Match funds to get to the \$600.0 federal grant amount are: \$300.0 DMV expenditures for the registration process, \$200.0 in this boating safety CIP to DNR, and \$100.0 in incidental expenditures taken from existing state programs at Parks and the Department of Public Safety.

Specific Spending Detail:

By law, 75% of the funding will be used for boating education programs such as curriculum development, printed materials, instructor training, and school programs. While our emphasis is on education, the state funds requested can be used not only for education, but also for such things as maintenance of boating access and search and rescue training. The remainder of the federal funds will be used for project administration and officer training.

Project Support:

The Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation is working very closely with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Dept. of Public Safety, the Div. of Motor Vehicles, the Indian Health Service, boating safety organizations, other health and safety organizations, and individual boaters. The program has a long list of public and private supporters, including:

United States Coast Guard
United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
Alaska Municipal League
Alaska Boating Association (ABA)
Valdez Harbor Users Association

State of Alaska Capital Project Summary
Governor's 2003 Capital Budget
12/13/01 3:05:54 PM

Department of Natural Resources
Reference No: 32553
Released December 15th

Alaska Boating Safety

FY2003 Request: \$800,000
Reference No: 32553

Seward Boat Owners Association
Whittier Boat Owners Association
Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Association
Fairbanks Paddlers
Alaska Marine Dealer's Association
Trails and Recreational Access for Alaskans Board (TRAAK)
Alaska Safety Advisory Council (ASAC)
Kenai River Special Management Area Citizen's Advisory Board
Alaska Boating Safety Advisory Council (ABSAC)
Mat-Su State Parks Citizen's Advisory Board
Big Lake Community Council
Sitka State Parks Citizen's Advisory Board
Denali Safety Council
Alaska Department of Public Safety
Alaska Wildland Adventures
National Transportation Safety Board
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services - Community Health and EMS section
Western States Boating Administrator's Association
National Association of State Boating Law Administrators
National Safe Boating Council
National Transportation Safety Board

Project Opposition: None